

<p align="center">VII EVALUATION, COMPARISON AND IDENTIFICATION OF LATENT PRINTS</p>	<p align="center">Page 1 of 2</p>
<p align="center">Division of Forensic Science</p> <p align="center">LATENT FINGERPRINTS TRAINING MANUAL</p>	<p>Amendment Designator:</p> <p>Effective Date: 16-January-2004</p>
<p align="center">VII EVALUATION, COMPARISON AND IDENTIFICATION OF LATENT PRINTS</p> <p>7.1 PURPOSE</p> <p>7.1.1 To provide the student with an understanding of the process of determining the suitability of latent prints for subsequent comparison and identification. Since many of the latent prints developed through increasingly sensitive techniques are fragmentary portions of the fingers, palms or soles of the feet; the orientation of partial prints, determination as to probable location on the fingers, palms or soles of the feet and explanation of the evaluation of apparent differences is to be thoroughly studied.</p> <p>7.2 OBJECTIVES</p> <p>7.2.1 The student will attain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ability to correctly evaluate the suitability of latent friction skin prints. • The ability to run a latent print on AFIS. • The ability to completely compare latent prints to record prints. • The ability to accurately identify latent prints. • A working knowledge of the proper handling of lab submissions involving friction skin related evidence to include the proper accountability and reporting of the results of comparison examinations. <p>7.3 GOAL</p> <p>7.3.1 At the completion of this segment of the training program the student will have attained a level of expertise in the comparison and identification of latent prints which will allow the student to perform casework involving friction skin with minimal supervision. This ability is required of the student in the Internship phase of training. A thorough understanding of the theory involved in latent print identification as well as the ability to correctly apply it is a prerequisite to further training.</p> <p>7.4 DISCUSSION</p> <p>7.4.1 Evaluation, comparison and identification of latent prints brings together the various teachings of prior segments of the training program. This area is the single most important phase of training. The ability to grasp this subject matter together with early practical application is essential to the successful completion of the Latent Print Examiner Training Program.</p> <p>7.4.2 The evaluation of latent prints affects not only the correct reporting of the results of examination, but also the time expended on lab submissions. Additionally, subsequent requests for comparison with latents initially reported will result in additional time expended and on occasions may involve other examiners.</p> <p>7.4.3 Complete and accurate comparison of latent to record prints will determine:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Whether or not prints which could be eliminated continue to be searched. 2. Whether or not the perpetrator is ultimately identified. 	

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<p>7.4.4 Accuracy in identification of latent prints will not only reflect upon the integrity and professional reputation of the individual examiner but the entire Division of Forensic Science. The importance of accuracy of latent print identification is no where more evident than in the potential of this evidence in judicial proceedings. Therefore it is imperative that accuracy in identification be uppermost in the mind of the examiner at all times.</p> <p>7.5 EXAMINATION</p> <p>7.5.1 Successful completion of this segment of training will be determined by a series of performance tests consisting of actual comparison of latent prints to record prints requiring both eliminations and identifications. These tests will be administered on a monthly basis and will be increasing in difficulty culminating with a "mid term" exam consisting of latent prints from various areas of friction skin. In scoring comparison examinations each latent print will be of equal weight.</p> <p>7.6 REFERENCES FOR TOPIC VII</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Fingerprint Techniques</u>, Moenssens, Chapter 10. 2. <u>Friction Ridge Skin</u>, Cowger, Chapters 6 through 8. 3. <u>Fingerprint Handbook</u>, Fields, Chapter 13. 4. <u>Advances in Fingerprint Technology</u>, Lee, Chapter 6-9. 5. <u>Forensic Science: An Introduction to Criminalistics</u>, DeForest, Pgs. 349-352 6. <u>Fingerprints, Palms and Soles</u>, Cummins and Midlo, Chapters 5 through 7. 7. <u>Crime Scene Search and Physical Evidence Handbook</u>, FBI, Chapter 6. 8. <u>Fingerprints and the Law</u>, Moenssens, Chapter 7. 9. <u>Crime Investigation</u>, Kirk, Chapter 6. 10. NEC AFIS Training Manual. 11. Topic VII Latent Print Section Reference Articles File. 	